

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application in view of this response. Claims 1-20 are currently pending in connection with the present application, and claims 1, 13, and 14 are independent claims.

PRIORITY DOCUMENTS

Applicants acknowledge and thank the Examiner for the acknowledgment of priority under 35 U.S.C. §119, and further thank the Examiner for the acknowledgment of the receipt of all the necessary priority documents in this National Stage application from the International Bureau, as indicated in the Office Action Summary dated September 29, 2004.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Applicants acknowledge and thank the Examiner for the consideration of the references cited in the Information Disclosure Statement filed April 1, 2002, as indicated by the Examiner's initials and signature on the form PTO-1449.

DRAWINGS

Applicants note that the Examiner has not indicated the status of the drawings filed in connection with the present application. As such, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner indicated the status of such drawings in the next United States Patent and Trademark Office correspondence.

EXAMPLE EMBODIMENTS OF THE PRESENT INVENTION

Example embodiments of the present invention are related to a method for authenticating a commission from a customer 41 to a service provider 42. In an example embodiment of the present invention, a mobile phone 10, which may be associated with a subscription to a service provider 42, may be provided with a set of randomly generated code words 2. An identical code word set, together with an associated subscription, may be stored in a database 21. When commissioned, for example, a code word from the set 2, which may reside in the mobile phone 10, may be retrieved and its presence in the database 21 may be verified, which may subsequently authenticate the commission.

PRIOR ART REJECTIONS

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102(e)

Claims 1-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Parker (U.S. Patent No. 5,864,757). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

On pages 2 and 3 of the September 29, 2004 Office Action, the Examiner alleges that Parker teaches storing one of said plurality of code word sets in a memory circuit of a mobile telephone, as set forth in claim 1, citing Fig. 2, element 44, Fig. 3, elements 20, 50-80 and "its description", (of Parker), and storing an identical code word set in a database together with an association to said mobile telephone subscription (as set forth in claim 1), citing Fig. 3,

element 80 and "its description", (of Parker). Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's conclusion.

Parker discloses the computation of a check word 34 using an equipment identity code 24 and an operation specific code $k_{operator}$. More particularly, a logical exclusive-OR operation is performed between selected bits of the equipment identity code 24 and the operator specific code $K_{operator}$, which results in the checkword 34. The check word 34 is then compared with a code word 44, which is stored on a SIM card within the mobile phone (Fig. 5, column 9, line 49 - column 10, line 65). Parker further discloses a customer service center (CSC) 90, which is involved in the process of computing and comparing a check word.

However, Applicants respectfully assert that Parker does not teach or suggest the storing of an "identical code word set" in a database, as set forth in claim 1. It appears the Examiner has relied upon element 80 for allegedly teaching the "database" of claim 1. However, Parker makes no mention or suggestion of the storing of an "identical code word" (as set forth in claim 1) in the CSC 80. Thus, the CSC 80 is not the "database", as set forth in claim 1.

Further, nowhere in Parker is there any mention or suggestion of storing an "identical code word" (as set forth in claim 1); let alone storing an "identical code word set", as set forth in claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully assert that Parker fails to teach or suggest all of the limitations as set forth in claim 1, and thus, respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn.

With regard to claims 13 and 14, includes a “code word set in the database”, and claim 14 includes a set of randomly generated codewords stored “in the database”. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully assert that claims 13 and 14 are also allowable for reasons somewhat similar to those as discussed above with respect to claim 1.

Claims 2-12 and 15-20

With regard to claims 2-12 and 15-20, Applicants respectfully assert that dependent claims 2-12 and 15-20 are also allowable for at least the reasons as discussed above with respect to independent claims 1, 13, and 14 from which they depend.

CONCLUSION

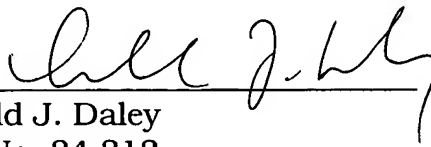
In view of above remarks, reconsideration of the outstanding rejection and allowance of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone Andrew M. Waxman, Reg. No. 56,007, at the number of the undersigned listed below.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-0750 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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